

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1031

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the 150th anniversary of
Fischer Evans Jewelers of Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to join in celebrating the sesquicentennial of Fischer Evans Jewelers of Chattanooga, a family-owned hometown business that features exquisite merchandise at all price points and excellent customer service; and

WHEREAS, now the oldest independent retail establishment in Chattanooga, Fischer Evans remains a destination location for both loyal customers from multiple generations of local families to new patrons from larger cities who value the company's personal approach; and

WHEREAS, located on Eighth Street between Market and Broad in downtown Chattanooga, Fischer Evans is presently owned and operated by Clarke Glover, who assumed the management of the store upon the retirement of his father, Howard Glover, in 2016, and his wife, Nicole Lampru Glover, both of whom are third-generation jewelers; and

WHEREAS, a certified gemologist, Clarke manages all technical aspects of the business, including design, and Nicole is involved in buying various lines of jewelry and handles marketing and advertising; and

WHEREAS, originally a store that specialized in selling watches, Fischer Evans has modernized its business plan to focus primarily on diamonds and jewelry; the store features designer lines of jewelry, many of them exclusive to Fischer Evans, hand-selected diamonds and gemstones bought directly from the cutter, and custom-made jewelry; and

WHEREAS, this iconic Chattanooga business relies heavily on the goodwill and expertise of its eleven staff members, including Clarke's mother and former owner, Becky Glover, and Roxie the golden retriever; three other employees have worked for Fischer Evans for thirty or more years; and

WHEREAS, the establishment was founded by brothers William F. and Lewis L. Fischer as "W.F. Fischer and Bro." in November 1869, during the presidency of Ulysses S. Grant and a mere four years after the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, in 1883, the Fischer brothers installed a large street clock in front of the business to advertise their wares; the clock was a popular downtown landmark and meeting place for many years until it was damaged several years ago and removed; and

WHEREAS, after Will Fischer's death in June 1909, Lewis Fischer continued to operate the store for twenty-two years, until his passing on March 14, 1931; and

WHEREAS, after Lewis Fischer's death, store manager T.H. McClure bought the establishment; he, and later his family, operated the store until 1956, when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Carter Evans, who renamed it Fischer Evans in 1963; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Howard and Becky Glover became the fourth family to own Fischer Evans; they retained the store's traditional, hometown feel but expanded its size and scope to include more diamonds and fine jewelry, china, and a bridal registry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Glover's concentration on offering a diverse selection of quality goods, employing knowledgeable staff, and providing impeccable service has kept Fischer Evans relevant during the past fifty years; and

WHEREAS, local businesses such as Fischer Evans are not only important in a historical sense but also represent the backbone of Tennessee's economy, and their ongoing vitality signifies a vibrant future for our State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commemorate the 150th anniversary of Fischer Evans Jewelers of Chattanooga, wish owners Clarke and Nicole Glover much continued success and prosperity, and pay tribute to an establishment that has combined traditional practices with a modern approach to thrive for 150 years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.